

Fighting Congress to keep economic development at home, Halvorson protects Illinois transportation funding and passes tax relief extensions she authored

After successfully fighting off attempts by Congress to strip \$120 million in job-creating Illinois transportation funding, Rep. Debbie Halvorson voted today to pass H.R. 4213, the *American Workers, State, and Business Relief Act of 2010*, which closes loopholes for businesses that ship jobs overseas, includes three tax relief extensions authored by Halvorson, and keeps investments in infrastructure in Illinois.

"When we see Congress trying to strip away nearly \$120 million in economic development for Illinois, we see exactly what is wrong with Washington," said Halvorson. "I am proud to fight for investment in Illinois, and will always stand up to anyone so that we can create jobs here in Illinois."

Early drafts of H.R.4213 stripped away much-needed transportation funding for Illinois, and distributed that funding to other states. Standing up for her constituents and advocating for the funding to remain in the legislation, Halvorson demanded this provision of the bill be removed before she could offer her support.

Halvorson-sponsored legislation to extend the property tax deduction on Federal income tax returns (H.R. 2146) and a tax credit extension for biodiesel production (H.R. 3909, the *Renewable Energy Investment Act*) were included in the overall bill. Also included was a Halvorson-authored tax credit extension for businesses that continue to pay deployed soldiers a portion of what their salary was prior to deployment (H.R. 4213, the *Small Business Supporting our Troops Act*).

The bill also contains provisions to close loopholes used by foreign companies to provide an unfair advantage when competing against American companies.

"I believe that we can out-work and out-compete any country if the rules are fair, and that is exactly what I voted to make happen today. We have seen signs of progress, but as long as our families are left looking for work, my work won't be done. That is why I will always fight for working families, and against policies that put them at a disadvantage."

The *American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act* passed by a margin of 215-204, and will now go to the Senate for consideration.